

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DPW-01 H-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /046 W

----- 031451

P 141110Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9358

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 2830

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, CB

SUBJ: CODEL VISIT TO CAMBODIA

1. FRANCOIS PEREZ, RESIDENT HEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS TEAM, CALLED ON ME FEB. 14 TO SAY FAREWELL AND TO INTRODUCE HIS SUCCESSOR. HE SAID HE WAS LEAVING PHNOM PENH FEB 23.

2. I SEIZED THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS HOPE THAT HE COULD EXTEND HIS STAY BY A FEW DAYS SO THAT HE WOULD BE IN PHNOM PENH WHEN AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL FACT-FINDING MISSION COMES TO CAMBODIA. I EXPLAINED TO PEREZ THAT AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION WAS NOT MERELY ASKING CONGRESS TO APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL MILITARY FUNDS BUT ALSO TO LIFT COUNTRY CEILING FOR CAMBODIA WHICH RESTRICTED THE AMOUNT OF RICE WE CAN PROVIDE FOR THE REFUGEES.

3. I NOTED THAT I HAD KNOWN PEREZ FOR ONE YEAR AND DURING THIS ENTIRE PERIOD HE HAD BEEN ONE OF THE MOST OBJECTIVE OBSERVERS AND EFFECTIVE WORKERS HERE. I CITED THE HIGHLY LAUDATORY REMARKS ON ICRC ACTIVITIES IN CAMBODIA IN THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON REFUGEES REPORT ISSUED BY CONGRESS ON JANUARY 27, 1975. AS A NEUTRAL SWISS AND RESIDENT OF CAMBODIA FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS, I THOUGHT THAT HIS VIEWS COULD CARRY MORE WEIGHT WITH THE AMERICAN LEGISLATORS THAN THOSE OF  
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ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS

WORKING IN THIS COUNTRY.

4. I STRESSED THAT AS PART OF THE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE FACT-FINDING DELEGATION, CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS WOULD BE ABLE TO TALK TO WHOMEVER THEY WISHED. PEREZ'S VIEWS ON REFUGEES, MALNUTRITION, KHMER DETERMINATION TO COPE WITH THE REFUGEE PROBLEM, ETC. WOULD NOT BE SUSPECT AS BEING PARTIAL AND COULD HAVE FAVORABLE IMPACT ON THE LEGISLATORS. FOR STRICTLY HUMANITARIAN REASONS, I THEREFORE URGED PEREZ TO POSTPONE HIS DEPARTURE SO THAT HIS VIEWS COULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. (PEREZ ALSO SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH WHICH MAKES HIM AN ARTICULATE ADVOCATE.)

5. PEREZ WAS RECEPTIVE TO MY ARGUMENT. HE PROMISED TO CABLE ICRC GENEVA FOR AUTHORIZATION TO REMAIN HERE AN ADDITIONAL THREE TO FOUR DAYS.

6. IF DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH MY LINE, SUGGEST CABLE BE SENT TO OUR MISSION IN GENEVA TO SUPPORT PEREZ'S REQUEST.  
DEAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CODELS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <25 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CODEL VISIT TO CAMBODIA  
**TAGS:** OREP, CB, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006